

Serial No.: 10/018,477

REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 7-16 and 19-24, as amended, remain herein.

Applicants appreciate the statements in the Office Action that claims 6-12 and 18-24 would be allowable if rewritten to include all of the limitations of the independent claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 5 and allowable claim 6, and claims 7 and 10 have been amended to depend from claim 1, thereby making claims 1-4 and 7-12 allowable. Claim 13 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 17 and allowable claim 18, and claims 19 and 22 have been amended to depend from claim 13, thereby making claims 13-16 and 19-24 allowable. Claims 5, 6, 17 and 18 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

1. The title has been amended to read "Optical Disc Apparatus for Discriminating Type of Optical Disk, and Method Therefor."

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2. Claims 1, 2, 13 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Yoshikawa et al. JP 11-203691, referring to an English language translation provided by the Japanese Patent Office. Claims 1, 2, 13 and 14 are allowable as explained herein, thereby mooting the rejection.

3. Claims 1-5 and 13-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Park U.S. Patent 6,747,931 and Satoh et al. U.S. Patent 5,903,531. Claims 5 and 17 have been cancelled, thereby mooting their rejection. Claims 1-4 and 13-16 are allowable as explained herein, thereby mooting their rejection.

All claims 1-4, 7-16 and 19-24 are now proper in form and patentably distinguished over all grounds of rejection stated in the Office Action. Accordingly, allowance of all claims 1-4, 7-16 and 19-24 is respectfully requested.

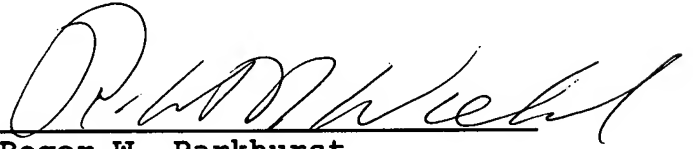
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Should the Examiner deem that any further action by the applicants would be desirable to place this application in even better condition for issue, the Examiner is requested to telephone applicants' undersigned representatives.

Respectfully submitted,

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